



The Fly-By

A Quarterly Newsletter of the
Southwest Region
July, 2013



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The Fly-By is published quarterly on the first month of each quarter. Deadline for submissions are:

1Q – 20 December

2Q – 20 March

3Q – 20 June

4Q – 20 September

Text may be submitted in the body of an e-mail (preferred) or as a document attached to an e-mail (a text file or, if generated in a word processor, saved in .RTF format).

Images must be in JPG format, un-retouched, un-cropped, and at least 1200 by 900 pixels.

Credits: In all cases, please give full grade, name and unit of assignment of

1. The article's author,
2. Photographer, and
3. Any person mentioned in the article.

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Send submissions to the Editor at:

awoodgate@austin.rr.com

Message size limit: 20 MB

News Highlights From Around the Region

In the second quarter of 2013, SWR continued to advise and support its member wings in the accomplishment of their mission. Texas Wing inaugurated its new headquarters in Nacogdoches. The Texas Wing Color Guard team won the region Cadet Competition. Arizona and New Mexico Wings participated in Exercise Resolute Angel, ran by the Air Force across multiple states.

To avoid errors or omissions, I've asked each wing PAO to send in a summary of notable events. They are posted below in the order in which they were received, with my thanks.

New Mexico Wing participated, along with the Arizona Wing, in Resolute Angel, a multi-agency disaster relief exercise focused on a remote region along the border of both states. The wing was credited with a "save" for finding a missing person in the Gila National Forest. Cadets from around the state participated in Summer Encampment, held at the New Mexico National Guard complex in Santa Fe. The Wing staff stood the USAF Compliance Inspection in May, and received a "highly successful" rating.

Oklahoma Wing responded to the multiple tornadoes that struck the Oklahoma City metro on May 19, 20 and 31. Also undertook two separate SAR missions during this response, resulting in one find. The wing participated in the Ada Air Expo and the Durant Air Expo, the first in the state in over two years. The Broken Arrow Composite Squadron welcomed new commander Maj. Marco Criscione, as outgoing commander Capt. Carder Ehlert was scheduled to attend Naval pilot training by the end of June.

Louisiana Wing ran its Emergency Services Training Academy in April at the Southwest Community College, responded to assistance requests from local and state agencies, strengthened its senior member professional development opportunities as well as cadet programs, and served the community. Flight training was emphasized for both pilots and aircrew members. Lt. Col. Joe DePaolo, a returning CAP member with 45 years of service, was appointed wing PAO. In keeping with national directives, safety was emphasized in planning and executing training and missions.

Texas Wing hosted the grand opening of its new Wing headquarters and training center in Nacogdoches; underwent a biennial Operational Evaluation by the U.S. Air Force;

assisted the Federal Aviation Administration with announcing the restriction of private and commercial air traffic during the opening of the George W. Bush Presidential Library, and had two cadets earn the General Carl A. Spaatz award, that carries with it simultaneous promotion to the grade of Cadet Colonel.

Arizona Wing conducted emergency services training at all levels, responded to requests for assistance at the local and state level, provided opportunities for senior member professional development, conducted organized cadet training and development, and participated in community service initiatives. Squadron members met regularly, and unit commanders recognized individual achievement by presenting promotion certificates to cadets and senior members, as applicable. Flight training was emphasized for both pilots and aircrew members. In keeping with national directives, safety was emphasized in planning and executing training and missions.

Arkansas Wing conducted emergency services training at all levels, responded to requests for assistance at the local and state level, provided opportunities for senior member professional development, conducted organized cadet training and development, and participated in community service initiatives. Squadron members met regularly, and unit commanders recognized individual achievement by presenting promotion certificates to cadets and senior members, as applicable. Flight training was emphasized for both pilots and aircrew members. In keeping with national directives, safety was emphasized in planning and executing training and missions.

To everyone, our congratulations. 🇺🇸

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Safety is Priority One

Please read the latest issue of The Safety Beacon for timely, seasonal advice at <http://members.gocivilairpatrol.com/safety/>

Have you taken the **Operational Risk Management** Basic, Intermediate and Advanced online courses? Please visit: http://www.capmembers.com/safety/safety_education/

- Safety must be on every CAP member's mind, at all times.
- Before engaging in any CAP activity, a safety briefing must be conducted.
- Don't miss the Safety Specialty Track training posted at <http://www.capmembers.com/safety/safety-newsletters-2248/>
- **Safety is our Number One Priority.**

How to Submit News Items for this Newsletter

▪ **Which Articles Are Best?**

Ideally, articles should deal with a wing-wide event, preferably conducted in conjunction or coordinated with another wing (or better yet across regions).

Individual articles dealing with a subject that is of interest to a broad audience qualify as well.

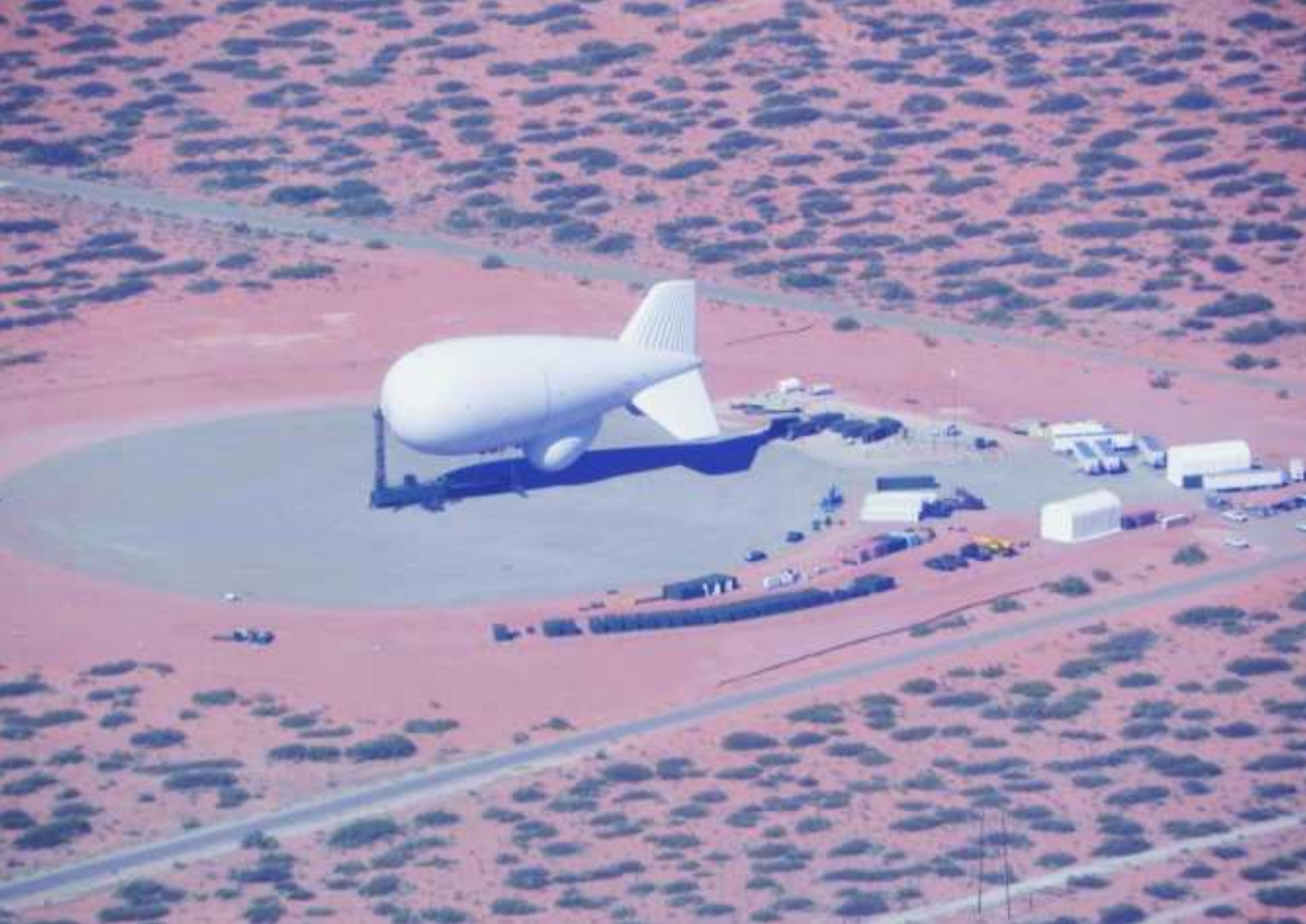
Articles bylined by cadets, especially when the subject is of interest to a broad audience, are also welcome.

▪ **Do I Submit Photos?**

Articles with no photos may not be selected for publication. Do not embed images in a Word document. Instead, send in the original, un-retouched, full-size digital photos as attachments.

▪ **If You Have Article Ideas or Suggestions**

If you have an article in mind but are not sure whether it would be acceptable, you need some guidance in writing it, or you would like to comment on the material published here, please feel free to contact the editor: awoodgate@austin.rr.com. 🇺🇸



Top: The JLENS blimp at its tether at Oro Grande, N.M., in the White Sands Missile Range. (Photos: Maj. Jim Talbert, CAP)

New Mexico Wing Helps Test JLENS Technology

by Maj. Shirley Kay, CAP, and Maj. Jim Talbert, CAP, New Mexico Wing

ALAMOGORDO, N.M. - New Mexico Wing's Alamogordo Composite Squadron (C.S.) has worked alongside Raytheon Corporation to test and provide airpower for the development of an airborne fire control radar system. Testing began in October 2011 and was completed by April 2013, validating a significant portion of the overall equipment testing process.

The system, known as JLENS (Joint Land Attack Cruise Missile Defense Elevated Netted Sensor System), was developed by Raytheon as an anti-air and missile defense system capable of detecting all airborne threats, including targets on the ground and over water. The radar is mounted on an aerostat – or blimp – which for the tests was tethered to a fixed point near Oro Grande, N.M., inside the White Sands Missile Range. Civil Air Patrol's involvement in these tests was to provide an airborne target for the radar's evaluation and calibration.

The Alamogordo Composite Squadron's role began over a year before the first flight took place. Maj. Shirley Kay, squadron emergency services officer, and Maj. Jim Talbert, mission pilot and squadron maintenance officer, both Alamogordo C.S. members, met with representatives of Raytheon and other ground participants in order to lay the groundwork for the tests. The first JLENS mission was flown on Oct. 29, 2011.

The first mission consisted of calibration sorties, during which aircraft flew in a 4.9 nautical mile radius around the aerostat, at altitudes from 1,000 feet above ground level (AGL) to 15,000

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feet mean sea level (MSL), for over five hours each sortie. Sorties that followed involved flying specified routes.

Raytheon developed two routes: Pistol to the west, and Butterfly to the east of the Raytheon test site. These routes consisted of legs from Lordsburg in the west to Hudspeth in the east, many flown at 15,500 feet MSL. Members of Albuquerque Senior Squadron II wanted to participate in the testing, so the Alamogordo C.S. trained some of their pilots to fly these routes.

The data collected from the first two routes resulted in a third route being created, flying to the north past Socorro, and then to the south past Elephant Butte Lake, with an Alamogordo C.S. member manning the radio at the squadron's hangar to provide communications between the aircraft and the test site. Although these flights lasted as long as 6.9 hours, the extremely accurate Garmin G-1000 instrument panel allowed the aircraft to land with at least 17 gallons of fuel on board, meeting all safety requirements.

New Mexico Wing's final JLENS mission was flown on April 26, 2013. This mission was different from all others, as wind-driven electricity-generating turbines, in the Guadalupe Mountains near Texas, interfered with Air Traffic Control radar. The Alamogordo C.S. launched and flew near the turbines – at various altitudes over and behind them – successfully gathering data for Raytheon.

New Mexico Wing flew 41 sorties, for a total of 202 hours' flight time; although some sorties were cancelled because of poor weather conditions or test site events, none were lost due to CAP actions. 🇺🇸

Below: The JLENS blimp, in the skies above New Mexico





Photo of a Mooney M20 similar to the missing aircraft that was found near Guymon, Okla. (Photo Courtesy of FlightAware)

Missing Aircraft Found Near Guymon, Okla.

by Capt. Rick Rutledge, CAP, Oklahoma Wing

GUYMON, Okla. – In close co-ordination, Civil Air Patrol and Oklahoma's Texas County Sheriff's Department have found the missing Mooney M20 aircraft, which had been bound for Colorado Springs, Colo. after originating in the Oklahoma City area.

The aircraft had taken off on April 1, 2013 at approximately 12:30 pm, and failed to reach its intended destination. When the aircraft did not arrive as planned, a concerned family member contacted local authorities who initiated the search.

Both Texas and Oklahoma Wings of Civil Air Patrol had multiple ready-to-launch air crews and ground team personnel on stand-by, but were unable to initiate their search because of inclement weather across Northwestern Oklahoma.

Civil Air Patrol's Colorado Wing was able to launch aircraft in an effort to search along the intended path of the pilot toward his destination. Thanks to this effort, the search was narrowed down to the area around Guymon, Oklahoma, which served as an intermediate stop.

The Texas County Sheriff's Department and the Guymon Municipal Airport Manager found the aircraft near Goodwell, Okla., about 11 miles southwest of Guymon 🇺🇸



Above: A U.S. Army CH-47 helicopter lands at the Springerville (Ariz.) airport with airplanes from the Arizona and New Mexico wings of the Civil Air Patrol already waiting on the ground during the “Resolute Angel” disaster training exercise on April 13, 2013. (Photos: 2nd Lt. Ryan M. Stark, CAP, New Mexico Wing)

“Resolute Angel” Tests Members’ Search and Rescue Skills

by 2nd Lt. Ryan M. Stark, CAP, New Mexico Wing

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. –New Mexicans from all walks of life put off work, family and other plans for the long weekend of April 11-14, 2013 in order to participate in the first-of-its-kind emergency training exercise as the New Mexico Wing of the Civil Air Patrol – the civilian auxiliary of the United States Air Force – worked with military, law-enforcement and other agencies in helping to mitigate a simulated major disaster.

Called “Resolute Angel,” the exercise was part of a larger Air Force exercise called “Angel Thunder,” the world’s largest personnel recovery exercise.

This year was the first time that New Mexico Wing had been invited to participate in this exercise.

“Angel Thunder” – which began on April 7 and ran through April 20 – integrated the Air Force with its sister services and numerous state, national, multinational and interagency assets dedicated to saving lives in extreme circumstances.

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The “Resolute Angel” portion of “Angel Thunder” tested local, state and federal organizations with a simulated catastrophic, mass-casualty event that reached from the Grand Canyon to the New Mexico-Arizona border, and to Tucson, Ariz.

New Mexico Wing’s portion of the exercise was initiated on Thursday, April 11, when – according to the exercise – a magnitude 8.0 earthquake occurred with its epicenter near Ganado, Ariz. Cities including Gallup, N.M., Window Rock, Ariz., and Winslow, Ariz. (among others) were said to have suffered major damage. Other simulated elements of the disaster included derailed trains, damaged airports, chlorine leaks, volcanic activity, an oil refinery fire, lost hikers and much more.

Civil Air Patrol elements of Arizona and New Mexico Wings were activated to conduct air- and ground-based search and rescue operations, as well as aerial disaster assessment.

CAP’s light aircraft, with a crew of three, were equipped with special radios to communicate with other emergency personnel, as well as high-resolution cameras to photograph ground damage from the air. These photographs helped incident commanders coordinate deployment of emergency assets.

“This was a tremendous opportunity for CAP members from squadrons across New Mexico to get a real taste of what they would be called upon to do when helping with a catastrophic situation,” said Col. Mark Smith, commander of CAP’s New Mexico Wing. “I’m really proud of our people, not for just doing well in the exercise, but for taking time away from their jobs and families to come out and train.”

The Civil Air Patrol’s portion of the exercise concluded on April 14. The Air Force’s portion of “Angel Thunder” continued for the period April 15-19, which included high-altitude and urban-irregular warfare, contested operations, and air-sea battles over the California coast.

Altogether, “Resolute Angel” spanned 40,000 square miles over Arizona and New Mexico. 🇺🇸

Below: At the Springerville, Ariz. airport during the “Resolute Angel” disaster training exercise on April 12, 2013, Civil Air Patrol Maj. James Steele of Albuquerque, N.M., Senior Squadron II (left) discusses flight operations with Arizona Wing member Maj. Paul Combellick (seated) and fellow New Mexico Wing member Lt. Col. Larry Zentner.



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Texas Wing Personnel Help Tornado-ravaged Oklahoma Town

*by Capt. Morgan Montalvo,
CAP, Texas Wing*

MOORE, Okla. – By May 28, 2013, dozens of personnel from Civil Air Patrol's Texas Wing were still on duty at Moore, Okla., performing damage assessment of homes, public buildings and businesses – more than a week after a twister tore a 17-mile-long track through the town of about 45,000 residents.

"Texas Wing has been absolutely monumental in us completing the mission that FEMA has given us," said CAP Capt. Rick Rutledge, Oklahoma Wing Public Affairs Officer. "They were able to send us members almost immediately after the tornado struck. We've had Texas Wing boots on the ground literally in less than 24 hours."

The EF-5 twister mowed its destructive path through Moore on May 20, killing seven students when it demolished Plaza Towers Elementary School. Moore is located in central Oklahoma and is considered part of Oklahoma City's metropolitan area. The general area is known as "Tornado Alley."



CAP's role in the recovery phase involves detailing the destruction from both ground and air for the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

"We're literally having to send teams to each and every house and business that's been damaged. From the air side, we've been able to provide [FEMA] with high-definition photographs for the entire 17-mile track of the tornado," Rutledge said.


An estimated 80 CAP air and ground team members – many of them teenage cadets -- from Oklahoma, Texas, Kansas and Arkansas are augmenting 450 FEMA personnel who, by Memorial Day, had delivered 43,000 meals and 150,000 liters of water, along with thousands of cots, blankets and other needed comfort items. FEMA officials say that 4,200 people have applied for disaster assistance. The agency has approved an estimated \$3.4 million in emergency cash payments to tornado victims.

"Texas Wing is honored to have the opportunity to serve in the support mission for the Moore, Oklahoma tornado," said CAP Col. Brooks Cima, Texas Wing Commander.

Cima said that approximately 30 Texas Wing members were in Oklahoma, providing air and ground communications and mission support in addition to performing damage assessment. She said that CAP Wings have a long tradition of supporting each other during emergencies.

"Oklahoma Wing has supported Texas when we've suffered from hurricanes," said Cima. "We owe them that same loyalty."

President Barack Obama toured the town over the Memorial Day Weekend to offer encouragement to Moore's citizens, thank first responders, survey the damage, and assure state and local officials that federal aid would be swift and long-term.

This tornado has been one of the costliest in U.S. history. Moore previously had suffered extensive damage from tornadoes on Oct. 4, 1998; May 3, 1999, May 8, 2003; and May 10, 2012. At the time, the 1999 twister had been considered the costliest in U.S. history. 





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Oklahoma Wing Aircrews, Ground Teams Document Tornado Destruction

by Capt. Rick Rutledge, CAP, Oklahoma Wing

MOORE, Okla. – In the aftermath of the series of tornadoes that struck Oklahoma starting on May 20, 2013, CAP aircrews flew many sorties following the tornado's path to provide high-quality imagery to

assess the damage, as ground teams walked block by block, house by house to document the destruction.

Oklahoma Wing aircrews have flown numerous sorties, taking several hundred digital photos at Oklahoma State's request. Ground teams from Oklahoma and Kansas Wings, at the request of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, took photos of every residence affected by the storm.

Additional ground teams responding from Texas and Arkansas Wings assisted in that task.

"The damage is difficult to see and process," said Maj. Sam Ory, ground team leader for the initial response and commander of the Starbase Composite Squadron. "Before you get here and witness it, you really can't imagine a storm causing this destruction."

The damage path in the Moore vicinity was estimated to be 17 miles in length and up to almost 2 miles wide, with debris scattered more than 3 miles from ground zero.

CAP members from Alabama, California, Colorado, Louisiana, New Mexico, Missouri and Pennsylvania Wings have offered to help as well.

Immediately following the tornadoes, members of the Oklahoma Wing's Cleveland County, Oklahoma City, Edmond and Flying Castle Composite Squadrons responded in strength. They assisted in search and rescue in the hardest-hit areas and provided temporary communications support to the city of Moore and logistics support in the staging areas.

"More than 100 members from four wings are assisting with air and ground team efforts, and the number of requests is growing by the hour," said Lt. Col. Russell Davis, Oklahoma Wing vice commander and CAP's incident commander for the Oklahoma tornado response.

"CAP's unpaid professionals are ever vigilant, trained and ready to serve our fellow citizens when disaster strikes. Additional CAP volunteers from across the nation will join forces with us, as needed, to get the job done," Davis said. 🇺🇸

Top: An aircrew prepares to execute a photo-reconnaissance mission to help assess the tornado's damage.

Right: The high-resolution images were assembled as a photo-mosaic to help plan rescue and remediation operations.

(Photos: 2nd Lt. Barry Fogerty, CAP)



Texas Wing Squadron Helps With Oklahoma Tornado Damage Assessment

by Capt. Kelly Castillo, CAP, Texas Wing

MOORE, Okla. – On May 20, 2013, an EF5 tornado ravaged the town of Moore, Okla. with winds reaching speeds of up to 210 miles per hour. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), called on the Civil Air Patrol for assistance.



Five senior members and Cadet Master Sgt. Blake Bolluyt, all members of the Black Sheep Composite Squadron, arrived two days later from Texas to conduct damage assessment.

"FEMA wanted us to take pictures of every house in the neighborhood," said Capt. Opal McKinney. "When we got there, it was really bad. The devastation was unbelievable."

The six members were assigned tasks at the neighborhoods. Two cameramen and two spotters would walk through the neighborhoods to photograph the destroyed houses. The spotters ensured the safety of the cameramen while photos were being taken amongst the debris. The other two senior members stayed behind in the squadron van to maintain communication with mission base.

Cadet Bolluyt, one of the cameramen, was to be the only cadet from Texas able to assist in the Moore disaster relief efforts.

"After I saw how the squadron helped out with Hurricane Rita," said Bolluyt, "I felt inspired to help in Moore, Okla."

The CAP members worked in the worst hard-hit areas of Moore. Everywhere, survivors were observed sifting through the debris of their former homes.

"We saw American flags everywhere on cars, trees and buildings," said Capt. McKinney.

The six members assisted for five days, staying overnight at the Oklahoma Army National Guard facility.

"What I remember the most in Moore," said Bolluyt, "was seeing the crosses at Plaza Towers Elementary School for the children who had died there."



A recent graduate of Terrell High School, Bolluyt plans on joining the U.S. Air Force after he earns his Mitchell Award from the Civil Air Patrol.

"Because my grades were very good, I didn't have to take any final exams in school, and that is why I was able to go to Oklahoma," said Bolluyt. 🇺🇸

(Photos: 2nd Lt. Barry Fogerty, CAP, Okla. Wing)



Texas Wing Power Flight Academy 2013

by Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Tanner Reeves, CAP, Texas Wing

NACOGDOCHES, Texas – June 7, 2013 kicked off the 38th annual Texas Wing Powered Flight Academy (PFA). During this eight-day activity, 12 cadets between the ages of 16 and 18 gathered to learn how to fly using 7 Cessna 172 single-engine aircraft.

The activity was conducted at Texas Wing Headquarters in Nacogdoches, Texas. There were 12 adult staff members, 7 of whom are instructors who enthusiastically coach each cadet, intent on improving his or her ability to fly.

The activity's goal is to train cadets to the point that they can fly the plane through an entire pattern on their own, from takeoff to landing.

The Texas Wing Powered Flight Academy has trained over 300 cadets, with over 90% of the cadets achieving solo flight. Each cadet learns how to initiate coordinated turns, climbs and descents, recover from stalls, and many more valuable concepts involving flying.

During the day, a “ground school” curriculum consisted of aviation classes that introduced the students to new topics such as charts, aerodynamics, and the basics of flight. During the course of this activity, cadets encountered unique and unforgettable experiences that they will be able to use throughout the rest of their piloting career.

The cadets chosen to attend are hand-picked from among the top cadets in Texas Wing, and many have been accepted to attend different Military Academies as well as participate in the Reserve Officer's Training Corps ROTC.

The Texas Wing Powered Flight Academy trains cadets to become aspiring aviators as well as successful leaders who can pass the training on to the next generation. Even if a PFA alumnus does not go on to qualify for a Private Pilot's Certificate, or embrace a career in aviation, the skills and memories all of them take home from this activity can contribute to earning future job positions and an enhanced business career. 🇺🇸



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Left: Reviewing sectional aeronautical charts (L-R) Lt. Col. Mickey Marchand, 2nd Lt. Malachi Lindsey (seated), Capt. Mark Warriner, and Capt. Chris Sturm.

Below: Cadet Airman Stephen Nogueras takes part in robotics class.

(Photos: 1st Lt. Joe Jacobs, CAP)

Louisiana Wing Holds Training Academy

*by 1st Lt. Joe Jacobs, CAP,
Louisiana Wing*

LAFAYETTE, La. – During the weekend of April 13-14, 2013, the Louisiana Wing once again held its semi-annual Training Academy. Over one hundred cadets and senior members participated in the two-day event. "Requests were made to expand classes," said Academy Director Major Dan Lemanczyk, a member of the Lafayette Composite Squadron. "This year we added Robotics and Aerospace Education to focus on young people and heighten their interests. Both of these courses proved to be enjoyable and very educational."

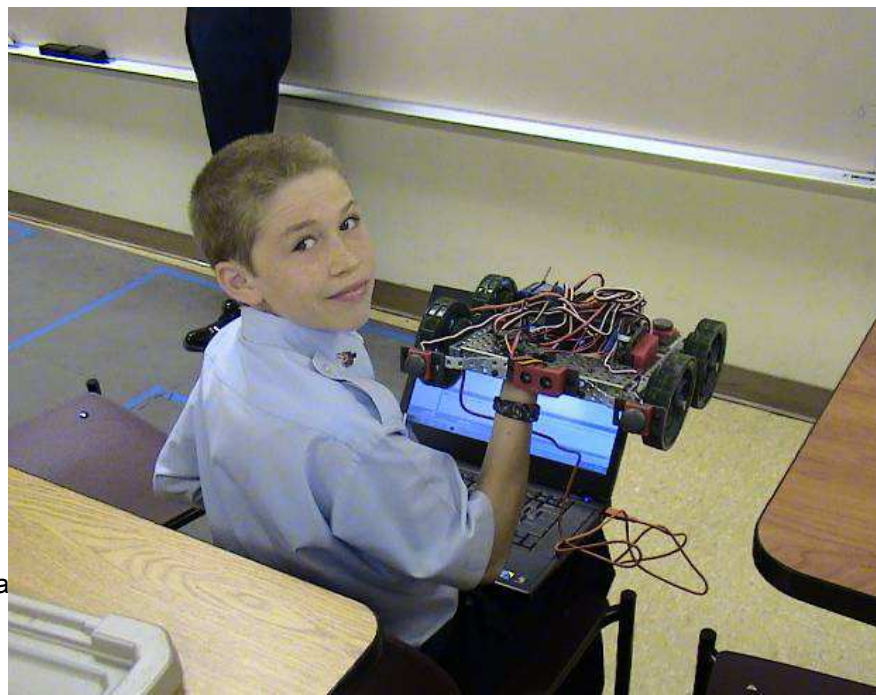
The Academy was held at the South Louisiana Community College in Lafayette, La. Cadets and senior members from across Louisiana Wing participated in classes that included Professional Development, Communications, Mission Aircrew, Cadet Programs and Aerospace Education.

"Louisiana Wing continued a tradition of excellence and training commitment" said Lt. Col. Mark DuCote, a member of the Capital City Composite Squadron and in charge of Professional Development at the Academy.

Courses offered and disciplines covered were: Corporate Learning Course, Squadron Leadership School, Training Leaders of Cadets, Airman Leadership School, Cadet NCO School, Drug Demand Reduction, Aerospace Education, Robotics, Model Rocketry, Cyber Patriot, Communications, and Mission Aircrew School in various aircrew specialties. Cadet aerospace rocket launches were very successful, and students went home with some useful launch-learning experience.

Firemen from the Lafayette Regional Airport Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Unit provided Saturday night's entertainment with a "Guzzler" truck demonstration. Chief Tom Skinner and Assistant Chief Lonny Chesnut treated the cadets to a jambalaya dinner. Chief Skinner said, "The cadets seemed to enjoy their visit to the airport ARFF facility. Many had been to control towers, but this was a first visit to ARFF for many."

"Our instructors gave of their time, talent, and attention for the benefit of those who attended," said Louisiana Wing Director of Emergency Services Lt. Col. Mickey Marchand. "This was a grand event and the hospitality of the South Louisiana Community College is much appreciated. The Louisiana Wing Training Academy is the tradition and strength that makes the Louisiana Wing of the Civil Air Patrol solid in any emergency." 🇺🇸





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Cadets take a bearing on the ELT using an EIPer direction-finding device.

(All photos: Capt. Harold Parks, CAP)

Texas Wing Squadron Conducts Emergency Services Field Training

by Capt. Harold Parks, CAP, Texas Wing

GLADEWATER, Texas – On the weekend of May 17-19, 2013, the Gladewater Corsairs Composite Squadron held a Field Training Exercise (FTX) to train newer members on Civil Air

Patrol (CAP) ground search and rescue methods and procedures. Opportunities were also provided to already trained, certified members to gain further experience in these subjects.

On Friday evening, after records check, signing in and a safety briefing, trainees were grouped into flights according to the specialty they wished to attain and how close they were to completing the requirements. Members left the Gladewater Municipal Airport to travel to the training area, an 1100 acre deer lease nearby. The location contains a variety of terrain, woodlands, swamp, water hazards and electrical interference challenges, which members are expected to be take into account while performing the assigned missions, such as locating missing aircraft or personnel, disaster relief, or other tasks that the US Air Force might assign to CAP.

Members set up their tents while staff organized administrative needs and set up communications equipment. Afterwards, members ate and enjoyed free time until lights out. During the exercise, members are required to prepare their own meals and clean up after themselves.

Training includes classroom time, practical demonstrations and field events for practicing skills. During this weekend, as the academics had been covered already, most members engaged in more field work than classes, completing nine successful ground sorties that included searching for lost people as well as downed aircraft scenarios.

A sortie is not complete until the team is de-briefed. All participants and trainers discuss the entire sortie, what went wrong, what went right and how to improve in the future. When the trainees covered what had gone wrong, it was evident that they had learned much, and these mistakes were not likely to be repeated.

As the training weekend progressed, the field assignments increased in complexity and difficulty, with every trainee having a chance to assume the responsibilities of every position on a ground team, as all members need to understand what everyone on the team needs to do. Their performance is an important clue to the weaknesses that need shoring up.

On Saturday night, the most challenging training scenario was presented to the trainees, who had been briefed on the dangers they might encounter. The mission was to locate a missing aircraft that might have had two personnel aboard, the aircraft color was known, and the Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) had been heard. The mission was assigned to Ground Teams 1 and 2, as this mission would be complicated and more than one ground team would be needed.

Starting off together, they began searching for the ELT independently, setting off in slightly different directions, but the signal led them to the same general location, where they heard cries in the nearby wooded area. Both teams moved towards the sounds and Ground Team 2, led by 2nd Lt. Matthew Sartor reached them first. Ground Team 1, led by Capt. Harold Parks, was right behind them.

Both teams halted short of the suspected accident scene and the Ground Team Leaders advanced to assess conditions and requirements for assistance. Lt. Sartor located only an “injured survivor” in the aircraft fuselage, and the ground teams were called in to assist with the rescue. Because Lt. Sartor is an EMT, Capt. Parks assigned Ground Team 2 to assist him in caring for the “injured survivor.” Ground Team 1 then left to search for the other possible survivor, who was located up in a tree.

The “tree person” played the role of a disoriented survivor brilliantly, initially declining to come down from the tree as she “had no idea who the rescuers were or what they wanted.” After coaxing and reassuring, she came down from the tree and all returned to the accident site.

Simulated injured victim is placed in the Stokes basket for first aid and evacuation. (L-R) 2nd Lt. Matt Sartor, Cadet Tech. Sgt. Seth Grimes (victim) and Cadet Master Sgt. Savannah Smith



Meanwhile, Lt. Sartor and his team had removed the “victim” from the fuselage, placed him in a Stokes basket and administered first aid. The teams called for an “ambulance” and, after preparing the patient for transportation, they proceeded to the nearest road. His injuries, if real, would probably have required helicopter transport, but a quick assessment of the accident area showed a helicopter could not land there. Instead, staff would be sending vehicles to pick up the teams. Had the situation required a helicopter, it would have been possible to provide transport to a helicopter-friendly clearing.

The following morning after breakfast, the group broke camp, as additional training events were scheduled for the day but staff wanted to be ready to leave quickly at the end of field training. Sunday’s training would take a completely new direction.

The group was pleased to host representatives of police, training and fire organizations. Adam Young of Caddo Parrish Fire District 1 arrived with his tracking dog for orientation and demonstrations. A training sortie exposed CAP members to actually working with a tracking dog. That required following the dog, sometimes even at a run. With full ground team gear, this presented a new challenge because it was a hot and humid day. Team members kept hydrated, and the rearmost member carried a radio in case of problems with the column.

Chief Paul Montoya and Sgt. Brian Best of the Hallsville Police Department, Melissa Knight of Kilgore College, and Norm Garner, the Director of Training at the National Canine Center provided briefings and demonstrations of working with K9 dogs. The dogs were brought out to train with us for a reason: Bruce, a fully trained dog, came with Ty and Marvin who were still in training, so the CAP members helped the visiting teams train their dogs and handlers.

Garner did most of the briefing while the others provided the demonstrations. He explained that when the dogs attack, they are normally not angry at whomever they are attacking – they are simply doing what they have been trained to do. After the dogs had released their target, the handlers would pass along the line of cadets with their dogs, encouraging everyone to pet them. That was part of the dog’s training to quickly calm down after an attack. Knight, who was working with Ty, had only met him that morning. Montoya was working with Marvin and Garner worked very closely with both to train them. For every dog attack, Garner was the target.



Later, when Bruce was brought out, all participants had a chance to experience an attack, but only by Bruce. Many of the cadets and one of the senior members accepted the challenge. The "target" got an armored glove extending up the upper arm for protection, and each participant was briefed on how to act and brace themselves. When these dogs attack, they strike with great force in order to knock the target off balance while they are biting. Each time Bruce

attacked, Montoya was close behind helping so no one would be knocked down, with Garner and Best ready to help if necessary.

After the K9 demonstration, everyone policed the entire training and camping area for any trash or debris, and then packed up to return to the airport, where the normal de-briefing session to analyze the weekend from the point of view of trainees and staff would follow. There has never been a training weekend where staff was not able to learn something from the trainees. This weekend was no exception. There were a number of areas where improvements and corrections could and will be made. A number of trainees were signed off as having completed certifications for several emergency services specialties, and planning started for a July event.

Attendees from Gregg County Composite Squadron included Cadet Senior Airman Zac Compton, Cadet Airman First Class Nicholas Smith, Cadet Master Sgt. Savannah Smith, Cadet Staff Sgt. Trent Compton, Cadet Senior Airman Vincent Joy, Cadet Senior Airman Shay Seward, Capt. Karl Falken, and 1st Lt. Darrell Smith.

Attendees from Gladewater Corsairs Composite Squadron were Cadet Staff Sgt. Austin Page, Cadet Senior Airman Hagen Brooks, Capt. Harold Parks, Cadet 2nd Lt. Billy Matt Brown, 2nd Lt. Jarrod Alexander, 2nd Lt. Kayla Sartor, 2nd Lt. Matthew Sartor, Cadet Senior Master Sgt. Grace Fork, 1st Lt. Farrell Alexander, Cadet Tech. Sgt. Seth Grimes, Cadet Airman Madison Pietrzykowski and Cadet Airman Basic Cody Sammons. 🇺🇸

Above: Fireman Adam Young and tracker dog make friends with CAP cadets.

Right: Cadet 2nd Lt. Matt Brown wears a protective armored sleeve as he comes under mock dog attack.

(All photos: Capt. Harold Parks, CAP)





Arizona Squadron Participates in Banner Children's Fit Kids Festival

by Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Meghan Parsons, CAP, Arizona Wing

GLENDALE, Ariz. – On April 13, 2013, Arizona Wing's 388th Composite Squadron participated in the annual Banner Children's Fit Kids Festival at Westgate. The activity is designed to encourage children of all ages to live healthy and

active lives.

To attract participants, the first 1,000 pre-registered young attendees received a free bicycle helmet, and all children in attendance got a Fit Kid Pack (containing a jump rope, water bottle, and pedometer).

Civil Air Patrol's drug-free ethic fit in perfectly with this event, and was an excellent project for Squadron 388 members to show their commitment to the community.

Squadron Drug Demand Reduction Officer Capt. Wendy Fields arranged for the unit's participation, which in the past has counted on Civil Air Patrol's presence. Cadets Chief Master Sgt. Jessica and Meghan Parsons participated as volunteers running a CAP booth. During the course of the event, they helped the many children who stopped by the booth to build balsa-wood airplanes, as well as explained Civil Air Patrol and the exciting opportunities available to cadets.

Visiting children and parents were interested in learning that the physical fitness component of the Civil Air Patrol cadet program has been designed with the idea of encouraging young people to maintain a healthy lifestyle and remain physically fit well beyond their CAP membership. The Banner Children's Fit Kids Festival has been designed for much the same purpose.

Other booths at the event presented such important topics as healthy eating, pool safety, bike safety and getting enough exercise. There were games and prizes for the younger visitors and advice for parents on how to create and encourage a healthy lifestyle for their children. 🇺🇸



Right: Cadet Master Sgt. Blake Bolluyt waits to carry a worn United States flag to the burn pot for retirement.

Center: Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Tori Schwarz places a flag into the burn pot.

Bottom: Cadet Bolluyt was the only cadet from Texas Wing to assist in the Moore, Oklahoma disaster.

(Photos: Capt, Kelly Castillo, CAP)

Texas Wing Squadron Observes Flag Day

by Capt. Kelly Castillo, CAP, Texas Wing

MESQUITE, Texas – On June 11, 2013, several cadets and senior members of the Black Sheep Composite Squadron took part in a flag retirement ceremony commemorating Flag Day at Mesquite Metro Airport. Weeks earlier, one

of the squadron participants, Cadet Master Sgt. Blake Bolluyt, had volunteered to help in the devastated town of Moore, Oklahoma.

“Because my grades were very good, I didn’t have to take any final exams in school, and that is why I was able to go to Oklahoma,” said Bolluyt.

During the annual Flag Day ceremony, Cadet Master Sgt. Bolluyt placed worn and tattered flags into a burn pot for retirement.

During the ceremony, Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Tori Schwarz read from a prepared speech.

“White represents purity in our hearts. Red represents the men and women who served or died to keep our freedom alive. Blue represents valor and courage that binds our fifty states together.”

The squadron’s tradition of retiring flags that are no longer serviceable was started by former

member Lt. Col. Jack Birchum, the squadron’s Moral Leadership Officer who passed away in the spring of 2012.

Throughout the year, the squadron collects the flags from the surrounding communities. These flags, which are worn out, damaged or badly stained, are then retired with honor.

The ceremony is a solemn and deeply moving experience. 🇺🇸





Cadet Senior Airman Juana R. Fox (left), and Cadet Airman Brianna Cockerham-Reynolds help Lt. Col. Ted Spitzmiller with his demonstration of Bernoulli's Principle. (Photo: Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP)

Spitzmiller Puts New Twist on Aerospace Education

by Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP, New Mexico Wing

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – On April 4, 2013, New Mexico Wing's External Aerospace Education Officer Lt. Col. Ted Spitzmiller, a member of the Rio Rancho "Falcon" Composite Squadron, visited the cadets of Albuquerque Heights "Spirit" Composite Squadron to demonstrate his unique twist on aerospace education.

Spitzmiller talked about the four forces of flight – lift, drag, thrust and gravity – and how they affect an aircraft in flight. He also discussed the three axes of flight – vertical, lateral and longitudinal – using a balsa wood airplane fitted with soda straws to illustrate the three axes.

Cadets were thrilled with his demonstration of Bernoulli's Principle – that states that as the velocity of a fluid increases, its pressure decreases – by having Cadet Senior Airman Juana R. Fox inflate a long plastic bag, with the bag's opening six inches from her mouth.

Complementing his presentation on the practical application of a scientific principle, Spitzmiller stressed the importance of a good education.

"Knowledge and skills are valuable, so you can earn good money when you get out of school," Spitzmiller said. 🇺🇸



Top: (L-R) Maj. Roy Evans, Capt. Tom Osborne, Arizona Ranger Master Sgt. Doug Smith, Arizona Ranger Sgt. W. Lass, and Cadet Staff Sgt. Angel Vandegrift. Maj. Evans made the introductions prior to the donation presentation.

Below: (L-R) Capt. Thomas Osborne, Deputy Commander for Cadets of the Prescott, Ariz. Composite Squadron 206; Arizona Rangers Master Sgt. Doug Smith and Sgt. W. Lass, and Cadet Staff Sgt. Angel Vandegrift after receiving a \$500 donation from the Lonesome Valley Company of the Arizona Rangers, earmarked for the squadron's cadet program.

(Photos: Lt. Col. Bill Lynam, CAP, Arizona Wing)

Arizona Wing Squadron Receives Donation from Arizona Rangers

by Capt. Thomas Osborne, CAP, Arizona Wing

PRESCOTT, Ariz. – On June 13, 2013, at the Prescott Airport Administration Building, the Prescott Composite Squadron 206 received a \$500.00 donation for their Cadet Program from the Lonesome Valley Company of the Arizona Rangers. Cadet Staff Sgt. Angel Vandegrift accepted the check on behalf of the squadron. Arizona Rangers' Master Sgt. Doug Smith and Sgt. W. Lass presented the donation check.

The decision to award this donation had taken some time. On





July, 2013

Dec. 3, 2012, Arizona Rangers' Sgt. James Wilkins, who is also a Civil Air Patrol Patron Member, had invited the Prescott Squadron to the Rangers' meeting at the Smoki Museum in Prescott, asking them to inform the Arizona Rangers membership about CAP and what they do for youth in the cadet program. Squadron Public Affairs Officer Lt. Col. Bill Lynam, Deputy Commander for Cadets Capt. Thomas Osborne, and Cadet Staff Sgt. Angel Vandegrift (the Squadron's Cadet Flight Sgt.) gave

a brief history of CAP and its missions, highlighting some of the major elements of the Cadet Program to members of the Arizona Rangers present.

At that time, Vandegrift explained how being a Cadet in CAP will help him pursue his goal of becoming a U.S. Secret Service Agent. Afterwards, there was a short question and answer session, where CAP members present fielded questions about the Civil Air Patrol and its Cadet program.

Above: (L-R) Maj. Roy Evans, Cadet Staff Sgt. Angel Vandegrift and Capt. Tom Osborne. Cadet Vandegrift was promoted to Cadet Master Sgt. after the donation ceremony; the squadron commander and the deputy commander for cadets pinned his new rank on him.

Right: (L-R) Maj. Roy Evans presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Maj. Roy Fluhart for his coordination of all components of the Squadron's preparation for its Subordinate Unit Inspection held on June 8, 2013.



Six months later, the Arizona Rangers announced that the squadron had been declared a winner, and agreed to attend the June 13 squadron meeting to make the presentation. Squadron Commander Maj. Roy Evans, Deputy Commander for Seniors Capt. Roy Fluhart, and other squadron senior members, cadets and their parents were on hand for the donation ceremony. As it turned out, it had been Cadet Vandegrift's presentation to the Arizona Rangers that had swayed the judges to award the donation to the squadron.

Following the award presentation, Cadet Vandegrift was promoted to Cadet Master Sgt. Immediately afterwards, Maj. Evans presented Maj. Fluhart with a Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of his having coordinated all components of the squadron's preparation for its Subordinate Unit Inspection that was held on June 8, 2013.

"It is a pleasure to see Cadet Staff Sgt. Vandegrift have his eye on the ball and know where he is headed," said Lt. Col. Bill Lynam.

The Arizona Rangers is a state-recognized non-profit organization of volunteers who, among other chartered activities, provide law enforcement assistance on request, and support local youth and community programs. 🇺🇸

The

New Mexico Wing commander Col. Mark E. Smith (left) presents Lt. Col. Claude Luisada with Civil Air Patrol's Distinguished Service Award for his years of service as Group 800 commander.
(Photos: Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel)

New Mexico Wing Group Commander Honored for Service

by Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel,
CAP, New Mexico Wing

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – On April 6, 2013, during the New Mexico Wing's Staff Meeting and Commanders Call, Lt. Col. Claude Luisada was honored by both the New Mexico Wing and the New Mexico National Guard for his more than 18 years of service as commander of Group 800, the unit that oversees New Mexico Wing's School Enrichment Program.

New Mexico Wing Commander Col. Mark E. Smith presented Luisada with a Civil Air Patrol's Distinguished Service Award, and U.S. Air Force Col. Steve Ver Helst, Deputy Adjutant General for Air (representing Brig. Gen Andrew E. Salas, the New Mexico National Guard's Adjutant General) presented him with the New Mexico National Guard's Medal of Merit.

According to Lt. Col. Charles Kreis, Luisada started Group 800 in 1995 with only two schools – Wilson and Harrison Middle Schools. A third squadron from Rio Rancho was added in 2001, and since then, the school enrichment program has flourished. Luisada retired as group commander in October 2012, and was succeeded by Maj. R. Ken Johnston, formerly the commander of Belen Middle School Squadron.

Both the Wing and the New Mexico National Guard had high praise for Luisada. "You are the reason I came here today," said Ver Helst. "I just wish I could have met you sooner." Luisada himself was modest about the awards, saying, "Without Group 800, there wouldn't be any medals."

The last word came from Smith: "Well done, Claude. We couldn't have done it without you." 🇺🇸

Lt. Col. Luisada receives the New Mexico National Guard's Medal of Merit from U.S. Air Force Col. Steve Ver Helst, Deputy Adjutant General for Air. Behind them is Capt. Nicki L. Voights, the wing's personnel officer, who read the citations for both awards.





(L-R) Texoma Composite Squadron Commander Lt. Col. Jeffrey Harrell, Cadet Capt. Mollianne Flood, and County Judge Drue Bynum. (Photo: 1st Lt. Michael Bernier)

Texas Wing Cadet Earns Milestone Award

by 1st Lt. Michael Bernier, CAP, Texas Wing

DENISON, Texas – On April 22, 2013, a cadet member of the Texoma Composite Squadron earned the Amelia Earhart Award in recognition of her achievements in the CAP Cadet Program, presented during ceremonies held at the squadron's facility at North Texas Regional Airport.

Cadet Mollianne Flood received the Amelia Earhart Award Certificate and simultaneously was promoted to the grade of Cadet Captain. Named in honor of the famed woman aviator and pioneer who achieved many aviation firsts before her disappearance while attempting to circumnavigate the world, the Earhart Award is the third milestone in the Civil Air Patrol's Cadet Program, and is awarded to cadets who have completed 11 of the 16 achievements in the program. Less than 3 percent of all CAP cadets nationwide receive this award.

Cadet Flood has been a member of CAP and Texas Wing since 2008, and has served as the Cadet Commander for her squadron since August 2012.

On hand to present the award was Grayson County Judge Drue Bynum, himself a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and a former U.S. Army commissioned officer.

In remarks following the presentation, Judge Bynum praised the cadets for choosing to participate in the CAP Cadet Program. "I think what you're doing is different from what most kids do. Anything we can do to surround ourselves with other people who are trying to help us build leadership, character, integrity, honesty, and work ethic, that's a good thing. In this age and time, especially as young people, that's a great thing for you. This program can add a lot of good things to your life."

In closing, he further challenged the cadets. "Appreciate and understand what this program has to offer, learn from it, and continue down the path you're on. I appreciate what you're doing, and I can tell you that you are going to make Grayson County a better place to live in because of what you're doing today." 🇺🇸



New Mexico Wing Commander Col. Mark E. Smith (left) presents Civil Air Patrol's General Billy Mitchell Award to Cadet 2nd Lt. Julien R. Work, of Albuquerque Heights "Spirit" Composite Squadron at the squadron's May 23 meeting. Work becomes the fifth cadet from the squadron to receive the Mitchell Award. (Photo: Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP)

New Mexico Cadet Earns the General Billy Mitchell Award

by Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP, New Mexico Wing

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – On May 2, 2013, Julien R. Work of Albuquerque Heights "Spirit" Composite Squadron was promoted to cadet second lieutenant, becoming the fifth cadet from the squadron to earn the Mitchell Award since the squadron's founding in 2005.

Past Mitchell recipients have included Samantha Reames, Haley Barela, Michael R. Eckert and Jaclin D. "Dakota" Sidden.

Work also becomes the latest recipient of the squadron's Mitchell Award plaque, which contains the names, dates and award numbers of all Mitchell recipients in the squadron. The plaque was presented to Work by Cadet 1st Lt. Dakota Sidden, the most recent cadet to have earned the Mitchell Award before Work.

On May 23, New Mexico Wing commander Col. Mark E. Smtih presented Work with his General Billy Mitchell Award Certificate.

Work now becomes eligible for promotion to the pay grade of E-3 (Airman First Class) upon graduation from Air Force basic training (should he choose to enlist) as well as academic and flight scholarships that can help him pay his way through college, or toward his private pilot's license, should he opt for enrolling in private pilot training.

Work has been a member of Civil Air Patrol and the squadron since April 2010. He is currently assigned as the squadron's cadet flight commander. 🇺🇸



Squadron members assemble for a final photograph as members of Composite Squadron 356, soon to be merged into Composite Squadron 388. (Photo: Cadet 2nd Lt. Meghan Parsons)

Arizona Wing Consolidates Three Squadrons

by Cadet 2nd Lt. Meghan Parsons

LUKE AFB, Ariz. – On April 9, 2013, Composite Squadron 356 had its decommissioning ceremony in preparation for its being merged with Composite Squadron 308 and Senior Squadron 313 and form the new Composite Squadron 388.

Wing Commander Col. Brian Ready , Wing Vice Commander Lt. Col. Layne Slapper, Squadron Interim Commander Lt. Col. Frank Scherer, the squadron's senior members, cadets and their families all enjoyed abundant food and fun during the squadron's final hours, talking about the unit's proud history and heritage and what these meant to them as memories to keep.

Composite Squadron 356 had been formed in June of 1996 by Maj. David A. Perez, who was an influential Civil Air Patrol member and founder of the Arizona Wing Desert Field Training Exercise (FTX) that so many cadets still enjoy. Maj. Perez's legacy of excellence in leadership is displayed in the David A. Perez Leadership Award, established in his memory to recognize those who continually demonstrate the "Can Do!" spirit through their dedication to Arizona Wing cadets. This award is open to all who participate in the Desert or Alpine FTX's.

A recipient of the David A. Perez Award himself, Lt. Col. Scherer led the decommissioning ceremony, ordering the casing of the Composite Squadron 356 guidon during the final closing formation, followed by a loud motivational chant that manifested the willingness and dedication of Composite Squadron 356's cadet members.

The squadron – that during its lifetime had been located at various buildings on Luke Air Force Base – had its final meeting in building 1018, next to the flight line. During the course of closing speeches, F-16 fighter planes took off from the runway, the building shook, and the noise level rose high, an experience that many squadron members will truly miss.

However, for Composite Squadron 356 members, this was not the end but a new beginning, as they would soon join Composite Squadron 308 and Senior Squadron 313 to become the new Composite Squadron 388 at Glendale, Ariz. 🇺🇸

Right: On behalf of the New Mexico Color Guard team, Cadet Senior Master Sgt. Nicholas Martin accepts the Second Place plaque from Southwest Region Commander Col. Frank Buehe.

Below: Cadet Senior Airman Fox salutes the Colors at New Mexico Wing Cadet Competition.

(Photos: Capt. Michael Anaya-Gorman)



New Mexico Wing Color Guard Brings Home the Glory

by Capt. Michael S. Anaya-Gorman, CAP, New Mexico Wing

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – On April 6, 2013, New Mexico Wing commander Col. Mark E. Smith congratulated five cadets and three senior members from Albuquerque Heights “Spirit” Composite Squadron that represented New Mexico Wing at the Southwest Region Color Guard Competition, taking second place overall.

Over two days in near-freezing weather, the color guard team competed against the best from Arizona, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas. Although this was the first time the squadron had sent a team to competition, they took first place in the in-ranks uniform inspection

and the 50-question written examination, second place in the aerospace panel quiz, and third place in standard drill and the mile run.

In the end, Texas Wing came in the winner. New Mexico had tied with Texas throughout the competition, and it was only after two tiebreakers that New Mexico was declared the second-place team. “If there was a team to beat us, I’m glad it was Texas,” said Cadet Senior Master Sgt. Nicholas R. Martin, color guard commander.

It took long hours and dedication from each team member to reach this standard of excellence. Starting on the first of the year, the team members – Cadet Senior Master Sgt. Nicholas R. Martin, Cadet Master



Sgts. Alexander J. Salazar and Xavier Raney, and Cadet Staff Sgts. Aaron D. Gunkel and Juana R. Fox – devoted every Saturday morning to training in marching, flag etiquette, rifle drills, leadership and aerospace education, putting in an estimated 60 hours’ of practice, with additional study time at home.

The Cadet Competition allowed the cadets to showcase their skills and leadership in a competitive environment. The teams had to use the lessons learned at the squadron level, such as attention to detail and teamwork, and challenge themselves to raise the bar to a higher level.



The New Mexico team focused on the smallest details, from how they laced their shoes to the frays behind their buttons. As a result, the Air Force chief judge awarded them Best Uniform, with a score of 325 points out of a possible 350. The Written Exam and the Aerospace Panel Quiz were especially challenging, since cadets had to study all ten chapters of the cadet leadership manuals, as well as all six aerospace modules, but the New Mexico Wing had the highest score of all participating teams and an average score of 86%.

A major contribution was that provided by the senior members who made the competition possible: Capt. Michael S. Anaya-Gorman, color guard coach; Capt. Nicki L. Voights and 2nd Lt. Theresa E. Salazar who provided support and accompanied the team to Arkansas (where the SWR event was held), as well as the staff of Spirit Squadron.

New Mexico Wing commander Col. Mark E. Smith awarded Cadet Master Sgts. Alexander J. Salazar and Xavier Raney, and Cadet Staff Sgts. Juana R. Fox and Aaron D. Gunkel a Commander's Commendation Award each for having taken second place at the Southwest Region Cadet Color Guard Competition. He also awarded Color Guard staff members Capt. Nicki L. Voights and 2nd Lt. Theresa E. Salazar Commander's Commendation Awards for their generous support of the competition. 🇺🇸

Above: Cadets await instructions before starting the written examination. (Photo: Capt. Michael Anaya-Gorman)

Right: (L-R) Cadet Master Sgts. Alexander J. Salazar and Xavier Raney, and Cadet Staff Sgts. Juana R. Fox and Aaron D. Gunkel receive Commander's Commendation Awards for having merited second place at the Southwest Region Cadet Color Guard Competition.

(Photo: Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel)



How the Southwest Region Public Affairs Awards Program Works

Starting with the Jan., 2013 issue of The Fly-By, by directive of Southwest Region Commander Col. Frank A. Buethe, the region will recognize contributions to The Fly-By as follows:

1. A SWR **CAP Achievement Award** for article publication on three different issues of The Fly-By. Multiple articles in the same issue will count as one.
2. A SWR **Commander's Commendation Award** for article publication on an additional six different issues. Multiple articles in the same issue will count as one.

Region will issue the certificate and send it to the winner's unit at the first available opportunity. The award certificate will be presented at the first available opportunity.

How to Make Submissions Suitable for Publication

Since The Fly-By is posted on the SWR website, it is an external communication. Therefore, as required by CAPR 190-1, Sec. 7.b.(7), articles must be written in Associated Press Style. If a submission that is not in AP Style is selected for publication, it will be edited to this standard. (NHQ/PA has been using AP Style for all external communications since 2005.)

AP Style is defined in the Associated Press Stylebook (available at www.ap.org). For a brief summary, please see "Associated Press Style in a Nutshell," overleaf.

"Article" is defined as a narrative that:

- Is written in AP Style;
- Answers the questions Who, What, When, Where, and Why, and preferably also How;
- Has one or more quotes from participants, with attribution;
- Has two or more digital photos attached (not embedded in the text), with appropriate cutlines (photo captions). An article submitted without digital photos that is selected for publication will count as a half-credit. For full credit, it must have accompanying photos.

General advice on writing a good article

- Get all the facts right, stick to the facts, and do not use hearsay or express opinion.
- Take good digital photos.
 - Do not use digital zoom, or else your photos will lack good focus and definition;
 - Take "action shots" of people doing something interesting that is material to the article;
 - Make sure everyone is in the correct uniform and you identify all.
 - **Note:** Good photos are essential to add immediacy and flavor to the story.
- Get good quotes.
 - Ask participants for their opinion;
 - Get full grade, name, position title and unit of assignment for each quote.
 - Get the individual's consent to publish the quote as recorded (read it back).
 - **Note:** Getting quotes is how you get to express opinion, and get your readers to share the experience that you are writing about.
- Write in good, idiomatic, unadorned English.
 - Do not "pad" your sentences, such as saying "due to the fact that" when "because" will do;
 - Avoid trite expressions, such as "it goes without saying" – if it does, don't say it;
 - Avoid colloquial expressions;
 - Do not write in acronyms – always define the first instance, such as "Federal Aviation Administration" before you use FAA;
 - No nicknames – unless famous, such as "Ike" for Pres. Dwight E. Eisenhower. 🇺🇸

Associated Press Style in a Nutshell

Below are the most important rules to keep in mind when writing in AP Style

- Write the title in normal English-language capitalization. Never all in caps.
- Add your byline below the article title
- Do not format the text in the article (only exceptions are: bullet comments and numbered paragraphs in a section that details a process or sequence).
- Do not indent the first line of a paragraph.
- Use AP Style rules for punctuation.
- Single space the article. At the end of each paragraph, execute two end-of lines (Enter key).
- Do not introduce artificial paragraphing by hitting the Enter key at the end of each line in your article. Instead, let the text wrap naturally and tap two Enter keys at the end of the paragraph.
- Use only a single space after a period.
- Insert a dateline at the beginning of the article, following AP Style rules.
- Answer the 5Ws: Who, What, Where, When, Why + the honorary W: How. In writing a CAP article, you will always know the 5Ws.
- Write all dates in AP style.
- Do not use postal codes instead of state abbreviations (not OK but Okla., not NM but N.M.) but some states have no abbreviation, such as Texas.
- Write all military grades in AP Style.
- Write the article in the third person singular.
- Express no opinion.
- To express opinion, use one or more quotes of qualified sources – always get the quoted person's permission to include the quote, unless it is a matter of record (printed article or recorded audio-visual). Get the quoted person's grade, name, job title and organization.
- Never self-quote.
- Identify all persons by grade or title, name, job title if material, and organization.
- Never refer to a young person as "kid."
- When a young person is a CAP cadet, never use "boy," "girl" or "child" but identify each one by grade, full name (or last name only – never first name only), and unit of assignment.
- Never use "their" for the possessive of a singular subject, such as, "the cadet took their meal."
- Avoid the abbreviations i.e. and e.g. You may know what each one means, and the Latin words they represent, but most people confuse the two. Be clear. Write in English and leave Latin and non-English to scholars.
- Refer to CAP members by grade, name, duty position and unit of assignment. Never by first name.
- On second or subsequent references, use only the last name, except when there are two persons with the same last name, in which case the use of both first and last name is preferred (never just the first names).
- In the case of CAP or military commanders or higher ranking senior members, on second reference use the grade and last name.
- Do not use Lt. as a grade. Lt. is a mode of address. The correct grade may be 2nd Lt. or 1st Lt., but never Lt. The Navy is the only service that has the grade of Lt.
- Do not use exclamation marks, as doing so expresses opinion.
- Use simple declarative sentences.
- Avoid the passive voice.
- Remember the good rules of English grammar and syntax, and follow them.
- **For best results**, buy the latest copy of the Associated Press Stylebook, available at a modest cost at www.ap.org – read it, study it, know it, and use it. 📖